

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thorsten Bechert et al.  
Title: ABSORBENT SANITARY ARTICLE FOR  
ABSORBING BODY FLUID  
Docket No.: 36403

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 56, applicants are aware of the publication listed in the enclosed copy of Patent Office Form 1449. A copy of the publication is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that this reference be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Joseph J. Corso, Reg. No. 25845

1801 East Ninth Street  
Suite 1200  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108

(216) 579-1700

January 28, 2004

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Thorsten Bechert
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	36403

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	A	EP 1 066 825 A1	1/10/2001	Hanke		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*